

ROSCOE G. BARTLETT
6TH DISTRICT, MARYLAND

2412 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2721



UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
RANKING MEMBER
SEAPOWER AND EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
RESEARCH AND SCIENCE EDUCATION

SMALL BUSINESS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
CONTRACTING AND TECHNOLOGY
URBAN AND RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

June 23, 2008

Kimberly D. Bose
Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE, Room 1A
Washington, D.C. 20426

Re: Reference Docket No. PF07-12

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing you concerning Reference Docket No. PF07-12. In particular, I am writing in reference to FERC's preparation of an environmental assessment to determine if a proposed natural gas pipeline compressor station at the corner of Route 180 and Gene Hemp Road in Jefferson, Maryland, is in the public convenience and necessity. I am entrusted to represent residents affected by this proposal in Frederick County in the U.S. House of Representatives. As you carry out your responsibility, I would urge you to ensure that the following questions are answered about the Jefferson Compressor Station. I appreciate the FERC's careful consideration of other questions and issues raised by residents in the Jefferson area and other inputs filed in writing with the Commission.

- The site is zoned agricultural by the county. As I understand, the site would need to be re-zoned as an industrial site for this project. Is approval for a zoning change by local officials required by the FERC to meet the standard of public convenience and necessity? Would a re-zoning be in opposition to the Frederick County Agricultural Land Preservation Act that was passed by the County Commissioners in December of 2007?
- The proposed site is also near several other agricultural areas in this rural community. Could there be a deleterious effect on other agricultural land as well as livestock?
- Will calculations be required to determine anticipated levels of additional emissions when the compressor is in operation? Is compliance with regulations limiting pollutants under the Clear Air Act and other relevant laws required to meet the standard of public convenience and necessity?
- Will the FERC require sound cancellation or other technologies when the compressor turbines are operating to maintain the existing low-decibel ambience of the area to meet the standard of public convenience and necessity?

- Because Jefferson area is a high wind area, would pollutants be carried far within the atmosphere and potentially have deleterious effects?
- The Catoctin Creek feeds directly into the Potomac approximately two miles downstream. The creek has shown signs of declining health, and there could be added stress of building a gas compressor facility in the immediate vicinity. Could this be environmentally detrimental?
- The Jefferson site is located directly between the U.S. highway RT 340 and the one main road for Jefferson RT 180. The implications of a potential closure of RT 340 or RT 180 for any length of time, whether short or long, could impact not only Jefferson, but surrounding areas near and far. There is no “Buffer Zone” as described in DTI’s Middletown site plan at this proposed Jefferson site plan since the site is considerably smaller. Could any environmental impact from this site be immediate and not be able to be minimized due to a buffer zone? Additionally, could the potential for ground water contamination be increased due to the ground fault lines within this piece of property as seen on geological surveys?
- Will the FERC require an analysis of other potential alternative sites to satisfy the affected residents in Frederick County that the economic costs and environmental disruption from construction and operation of a new compressor station along the pipeline will be minimized under the standard of meeting public convenience and necessity? If other alternative sites are considered, will the FERC inform the public why the Jefferson Compressor Station site is considered the optimum location under the public convenience and necessity standard?

On behalf of my constituents, thank you for your due diligence in the preparation of the environmental assessment for the proposed Jefferson Compressor Station in Jefferson, Maryland. Please keep me apprised of developments concerning Reference Docket No. PF07-12. Please call me at (202) 225-2721 or contact my Chief of Staff, Bud Otis, or my Energy Legislative Assistant, Lisa Wright, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roscoe G. Bartlett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Roscoe G. Bartlett
Member of Congress

Reference Docket No. PF07-12